

10/030099
531 Rec'd PCT/FT 16 JAN 2002

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Keizaburo MATSUMOTO**

Serial Number: Not Yet Assigned
(**§371 international application No. PCT/JP01/02636**)

Filed: **January 16, 2002**

For: **PRINTED MATTER, ITS APPLICATION AND ITS PRODUCTION
METHOD**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 16, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 2, wherein the receiving layer comprising an ink-absorbing resin as its main ingredient is a receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink further containing a filler.

5. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 2, wherein the receiving layer comprising an ink-fixing resin as its main ingredient is a receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink

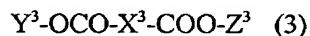
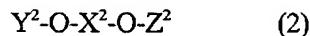
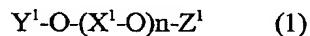
Keizaburo MATSUMOTO

Docket No. 020043

containing at least one ink-fixing resin selected from the group consisting of resins having a cationic group in their molecules.

6. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 1, wherein the receiving layer is formed at least on the print film of the ink used for printing the fixed information.

8. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 6, wherein the fixed information is printed with an oil-based ink by using the lithographic printing method or the relief printing method, and the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink is formed at least on the print film of the oil-based ink, the receiving layer comprising one layer or two or more layers containing different ingredients, wherein the layer adjoining the print film of the oil-based ink is formed from a coating agent further containing 1 to 8% by weight of at least one film forming-improving agent selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the following general formulas (1) to (3):



wherein X^1 denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, Y^1 and Z^1 each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, n denotes an integer of 1 to 4; X^2 denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, Y^2 denotes H or an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms, Z^2 denotes an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms or an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y^2 is H, Z^2 denotes an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y^2 is an alkyl

group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, Z² denotes an acyl group having 2 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms; X³ denotes a residual group of an aliphatic dibasic acid or an aromatic dibasic acid; and Y³ and Z³ each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms.

9. (Amended) A printed matter, characterized in that variable information is printed by an ink jet recording method on the receiving layer recited in Claim 1.

10. (Amended) A method for producing the printed matter according to Claim 2, characterized by printing fixed information and then forming the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink with a coater or a printer by an in-line system.

11. (Amended) A method for producing the printed matter according to Claim 7, characterized by forming the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink with a coater or a printer by an in-line system on a printsurface still in a wet condition immediately after printing the fixed information with an oil-based ink.

12. (Amended) The method for producing a printed matter according to Claim 10, wherein the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink is formed with a coater equipped with an anilox roll and a rubber roll.

Keizaburo MATSUMOTO

Docket No. 020043

REMARKS

The above amendment is believed to place the claims in proper condition for examination.

Early and favorable action is awaited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

In the event there are any additional fees required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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10/030099

531 Rec'd PCT/JP 16 JAN 2002

Keizaburo MATSUMOTO

Docket No. 020043

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

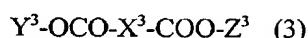
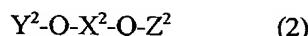
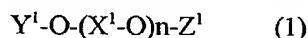
The following claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein the receiving layer comprising an ink-absorbing resin as its main ingredient is a receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink further containing a filler.

5. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein the receiving layer comprising an ink-fixing resin as its main ingredient is a receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink containing at least one ink-fixing resin selected from the group consisting of resins having a cationic group in their molecules.

6. (Amended) The printed matter according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the receiving layer is formed at least on the print film of the ink used for printing the fixed information.

8. (Amended) The printed matter according to Claim 6 or 7, wherein the fixed information is printed with an oil-based ink by using the lithographic printing method or the relief printing method, and the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink is formed at least on the print film of the oil-based ink, the receiving layer comprising one layer or two or more layers containing different ingredients, wherein the layer adjoining the print film of the oil-based ink is formed from a coating agent further containing 1 to 8% by weight of at least one film forming-improving agent selected from the group consisting of the compounds represented by the following general formulas (1) to (3):



wherein X¹ denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, Y¹ and Z¹ each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, n denotes an integer of 1 to 4; X² denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, Y² denotes H or an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms, Z² denotes an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms or an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is H, Z² denotes an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, Z² denotes an acyl group having 2 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms; X³ denotes a residual group of an aliphatic dibasic acid or an aromatic dibasic acid; and Y³ and Z³ each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms.

9. (Amended) A printed matter, characterized in that variable information is printed by an ink jet recording method on the receiving layer recited in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1.

10. (Amended) A method for producing the printed matter according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 2, characterized by printing fixed information and then forming the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink with a coater or a printer by an in-line system.

wherein X¹ denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, Y¹ and Z¹ each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, n denotes an integer of 1 to 4; X² denotes an alkylene group having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, Y² denotes H or an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms, Z² denotes an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms or an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is H, Z² denotes an acyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, Z² denotes an acyl group having 2 to 11 carbon atoms with the proviso that Y² is an alkyl group having 4 to 11 carbon atoms; X³ denotes a residual group of an aliphatic dibasic acid or an aromatic dibasic acid; and Y³ and Z³ each denote an alkyl group having 1 to 11 carbon atoms.

9. (Amended) A printed matter, characterized in that variable information is printed by an ink jet recording method on the receiving layer recited in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~ Claim 1.

10. (Amended) A method for producing the printed matter according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 8~~ Claim 2, characterized by printing fixed information and then forming the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink with a coater or a printer by an in-line system.

11. (Amended) A method for producing the printed matter according to Claim 7 or 8, characterized by forming the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink with a coater or a printer by an in-line system on a printed surface still in a wet condition immediately after printing the fixed information with an oil-based ink.

12. (Amended) The method for producing a printed matter according to Claim 10 or 11, wherein the receiving layer for an ink jet recording ink is formed with a coater equipped with an anilox roll and a rubber roll.